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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1

REPORT **INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 15 Sept. 1950

SUBJECT North Korean Activity in Seoul Area

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The number of North Korean troops in Seoul on 12 August was estimated at 40,000. The units include troops trained at the Kaechon (125-58, 39-40) and Anju (125-40, 39-36) areas of South Pyongan, who are scheduled to be sent to the front after reorganization. North Korean People's Army troops are not remaining in Seoul longer than 10 days. Troop movements occur only at night.

2. The schools in Seoul are being used as barracks. They include the police training school, Tosong National School, Chongno National School, Paechon Middle School, and Mimun Middle School; the Samkuk Apartments in Hyocha-dong are also used as barracks. Troops are confined strictly to their barracks and have been ordered not to use the school athletic grounds. No heavy weapons were observed with the troops. Equipment comprised rifles, machine guns and mortars.

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4. On about 13 August the North Korean authorities mobilized forced labor to dig trenches in the section between Wangsim-ni (127-02, 37-34) and Haengju (126-48, 37-36) along the Han River. The digging was discontinued after the UN bombing began. North Korean propaganda stated that the digging was stopped because the trenches were no longer necessary in Seoul with all the fighting over. The workers remain unconvinced and await the defeat of the North Korean People's Army.

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